

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TOKYO 01658 070725Z

13

ACTION STR-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 DOTE-00 PRS-01 CEQ-01 EPA-01

OES-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 COME-00 EB-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 SS-15 PA-01 USIE-00 INRE-00

/053 W

----- 063874

O 070650Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7861

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 1658

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRP, JA

SUBJ: GOJ INTERIM AUTO EMISSION STANDARDS

PASS STR

REF: STATE 22051, TOKYO 1485

SUMMARY: SENIOR LEVELS OF KEY GOJ MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO US REQUEST FOR DELAY IN ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMISSION STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO LARGE IMPORTED VEHICLES BUT NONE RPT NONE OF THEM ARE SANGUINE ANYTHING CAN BE DONE TO DERAIL A PROGRAM THAT APPEARS TO BE PROCEEDING WITH ITS OWN (AND ACCELERATING) MOMENTUM. THERE ARE RUMORS NEW STANDARDS MAY BE ANNOUNCED AS EARLY AS MONDAY FEB. 10. DEPT AND/OR STR MAY WISH CONSIDER A SUPPORTING APPROACH TO JAPANESE EMBASSY WASH. END SUMMARY.

1. SINCE TRANSMITTAL TOKYO'S 1485. WE HAVE TAKEN FOLLOWING ACTION:

(A) SCIENCE COUNSELOR HAS MET TWICE WITH DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, AND DIVISION CHIEF LEVEL SAME AGENCY. IN CONTRAST
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TOKYO 01658 070725Z

TO EARLIER HINTS SOMETHING MIGHT BE WORKED OUT, THESE

OFFICIALS IN PAST FEW DAYS INDICATED CONSIDERABLE DOUBT THAT ANYTHING MORE THAN A POSSIBLE ONE YEAR DELAY IN APPLICABILITY TO FOREIGN CARS COULD BE MANAGED. THIS WILL NOT MEET FORD MOTOR COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR NEW WEIGHT CLASS OR 2-3 YEAR DEFERRAL.

(B) E/C OFFICER REVIEWED US REQUEST AT DIVISION CHIEF LEVEL IN MOT (HIGHER APPROACH CONSIDERED FUTILE SINCE MOT CONSIDERS ITSELF PURELY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FOR STANDARDS ISSUED BY ENVIRONMENT AGENCY) AND COMPARABLE LEVEL IN MITI. RESPONSE DISCOURAGING.

(C) ECONOMIC COUNSELOR DISCUSSED MATTER WITH DIRECTOR NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION, FONOFF, WHO IMMEDIATELY SAW POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS US-JAPAN DISPUTE AND PROMISED LOOK INTO MATTER IMMEDIATELY WITH OTHER MINISTRIES. (FONOFF PROBABLY HAS LEAST WEIGHT ON QUASI-TECHNICAL ISSUE OF THIS KIND).

(D) ECONOMIC MINISTER DISCUSSED MATTER AT SOME LENGTH FEB 6 WITH MITI DIRECTOR-GENERAL INTERNATIONAL TRADE BUREAU HASHIMOTO. HE HAD BEEN FULLY BRIEFED BY HIS STAFF AS RESULT EARLIER CONTACTS BY EMBASSY. HE PROMISED TO CONTACT HIS COUNTERPARTS IN OTHER MINISTRIES TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE BUT WAS NOT RPT NOT SANGUINE ANY RELIEF POSSIBLE. HE STOUTLY AVERRED THAT PROSPECTIVE STANDARDS DO NOT CONSTITUTE A DEVIOUS NTB AIMED AT CLOSING JAPANESE MARKET TO LARGE US CARS AND CERTAINLY WERE NOT DRAWN UP WITH THAT OBJECTIVE IN MIND. HASHIMOTO SAID THE ENVIRONMENT AND ESPECIALLY AIR POLLUTION IN FOREFRONT OF JAPANESE CONCERNS AT MOMENT AND HE DOUBTED ABILITY OF JAPANESE LEADERS TO FACE WHAT HE CONSIDERED INEVITABLE BARRAGE OF PUBLIC AND DIET CRITICISM IF FOREIGN CARS GIVEN MORE FAVORABLE TREATMENT.

2. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH LOCAL PRESIDENT OF FORD AND RECEIVED HELPFUL ADVICE FROM HIM IN MUSTERING ARGUMENTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST FOR DELAY. TEXTS OF INFORMAL TALKING PAPERS EMBASSY LEFT WITH VARIOUS AGENCIES WERE READ TO HIM BEFORE APPROACHES MADE AND HAD HIS FULL CONCURRENCE. WE HAVE STRESSED INSIGNIFICANT NOX POLLUTION EFFECT IN JAPAN IF NOX STANDARD WERE RAISED TO A LEVEL WITHIN ACTUAL TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITY OF US PRODUCERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TOKYO 01658 070725Z

SINCE LESS THAN HALF OF ONE PERCENT OF NEW VEHICLE REGISTRATION IN JAPAN WOULD BE ACCOUNTED FOR BY LARGE CARS UNABLE TO MEET PROPOSED 0.85 NOX STANDARD WHILE WELL OVER 100 TIMES THE AMOUNT OF NOX EMITTED BY THESE CARS WOULD BE EMITTED BY OTHER VEHICLES (OVERWHELMINGLY JAPANESE) THAT CAN COMPLY WITH NOX STANDARD.

3. RUMORS HAVE REACHED US TODAY THAT TIMETABLE FOR PUBL-

CATION OF EMISSION STANDARDS MAY BE ACCELERATED DUE
CRITICISM OF GOVT BY OPPOSITION PARTIES IN DIET CHARGING
GOJ COLLUSION WITH INDUSTRY AT EXPENSE PEOPLE'S HEALTH.
SOME SOURCES INDICATE EMISSION STANDARD MAY BE PUBLISHED
AS EARLY AS MONDAY FEB 10. (PUBLICATION BY EPA WOULD BE
FOLLOWED ABOUT WEEK LATER BY MOT "ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVE"
SPECIFYING DATES OF APPLICABILITY).

4. DEPT AND STR MAY WISH TO CONSIDER BOLSTERING APPROACHES
WE HAVE MADE BY CONTACTING JAPANESE EMBASSY WASH.

5. EMBASSY WONDERS WHETHER USG EVER MODIFIED (OR DELAYED)
A PROSPECTIVE US AUTO SAFETY REGULATION TO
ACCOMMODATE JAPANESE COMPLAINT OF INABILITY TO COMPLY?
IF WE DID, THIS MIGHT BE USEFUL AMMUNITION.
HODGSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, AIR POLLUTION CONTROLS, AUTOMOBILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO001658
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750045-0262
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750260/aaaaccex.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 22051, 75 TOKYO 1485
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOJ INTERIM AUTO EMISSION STANDARDS PASS STR
TAGS: ETRD, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006